

#12-1  
B. Webb  
10/7/02

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: HILTEBRANDT, Siegfried  
Application No.: 09/621,870  
Filing Date: July 21, 2000  
For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

) Examiner:  
) RUDDY, David M.  
) Art Unit:  
) 3739

Atty. Docket No.: US 4037

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)**

Assistant Commission for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
U.S.A.

The applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) to respond to the Office Action dated 11/04/02 in the above mentioned patent application. The Small Entity fee of \$ 460 is hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account number 50-2459.

The applicant believes that this petition for extension is sufficient to assure timeliness. The applicant nevertheless hereby conditionally petitions for an additional extension under 37 CFR 1.136(a) should same be necessary and hereby authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge fees associated therewith to deposit account number 50-2459.

Respectfully submitted,



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Agent for the Applicant

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**Certificate of Transmission**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No.: 001 - 703/872-9303) on Oct. 4, 2002. The communication includes 3 pages.

Signature of Sender:

Paul Vincent

Name of Sender:

PAUL VINCENT

PATENT

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231  
U.S.A.

Transmitted herewith is a petition for extension of time for reply to an outstanding Office Action in the above identified application. The extension is being filed to establish copendancy with a continuation application which is being filed prior to October 11, 2002.

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OCT 03 2002

GROUP 3/00

S.N. 09/621,870 filed 07/21/00  
HILTEBRANDT, Siegfried

Atty. Docket: US4037

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Please note the following crossed items:

- (X) A Petition for Extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a)
- (X) Please charge Deposit Account Number 50-2459 in the amount of \$ 460 for the extension.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 50-2459.
- ( ) Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.
- ( ) Return Postcard Receipt

Respectfully submitted



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